

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 COME-00 ICA-11 L-03 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2607

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 15031

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PERP, SGEN, US, MX
SUBJECT: BORDER SUBGROUP

REF: STATE 222710

1. EMBOFFS MET SEPT 11 WITH MEXICAN CHAIRMAN OF SOCIAL WORKING GROUP (U.S.-MEXICAN CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM), FONSEC SUBSECRETARY ALFONSO ROSENZWEIG-DIAZ, TO DISCUSS FIRST MEETING OF BORDER SUBGROUP ESTABLISHED DURING SECRETARY VANCE'S MAY VISIT TO MEXICO CITY. ROSENZWEIG LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO POINTS SET FORTH REFTEL. HE SEEMED TO AGREE WITH MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF SUBGROUP AS OUTLINED, INCLUDING FLEXIBLE COMPOSITION BASED ON NATURE OF AGENDA ITEMS. HOWEVER, WHILE ACCEPTING DESIRABILITY OF HAVING BORDER-STATE REPRESENTATIVES INVOLVED IN SUBGROUP MEETINGS, ROSENZWEIG SAID HIS PERSONAL FEELING WAS THAT THEY SHOULD BE INCLUDED AS OBSERVERS RATHER THAN FULL PARTICIPANTS. (COMMENT: THIS POSITION PROBABLY REFLECTS ROSENZWEIG'S LONGSTANDING CONCERN THAT STATE AND OTHER LOWER-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES TEND TO BECOME INVOLVED IN TRANS-BORDER PROGRAMS AND ARRANGEMENTS WITHOUT ADEQUATELY INFORMING OR COORDINATING WITH FEDERAL AUTHORITIES. BY LIMITING STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO OBSERVER STATUS, HE APPARENTLY WISHES TO ENSURE THAT FEDERAL AUTHORITIES WILL

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RETAIN ULTIMATE CONTROL AND COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITY.)

2. ROSENZWEIG NOTED USG SUGGESTION THAT BORDER SUBGROUP MIGHT INITIALLY CONSIDER TOURISM AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. HE APPEARED RECEPTIVE TO IDEA OF HAVING U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN OF SOUTHWEST BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION AND MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVE OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF

BORDERS AND FREE ZONES REPORT ON STATUS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE. HE SEEMED TO ACCEPT POSSIBILITY THAT SUBGROUP MEETINGS MIGHT EVEN PROVIDE USEFUL FORUM FOR DISCUSSING CERTAIN LAW-ENFORCEMENT QUESTIONS, ALTHOUGH HIS REACTION WAS OBVIOUSLY PERSONAL AND WOULD HAVE TO BE TESTED FURTHER.

3. REGARDING COMPOSITION OF MEXICAN SUBGROUP AND TIMING OF FIRST MEETING, ROSENZWEIG SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH OTHER GOM SECRETARIATS AND AGENCIES. HE THOUGHT A FONSEC OFFICIAL OUGHT TO HEAD THE MEXDEL BUT QUICKLY ADDED THAT ANY DECISION WOULD DEPEND ON THE RESULTS OF HIS CONSULTATIONS. ROSENZWEIG CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY SUGGESTING THAT EMBOFFS CALL HIM ABOUT SEPT 20 TO OBTAIN MEXICAN VIEWS ON QUESTIONS ABOUT BORDER SUBGROUP RAISED IN REFTEL. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

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